

U.S.S.N. 09/760,046

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

(a) dissolving a macromolecular material in an effective amount of a solvent, to form a solution;

(b) dissolving or dispersing the agent in the solution to form [a mixture] an emulsion and thereby micronize the particles of the agent;

(c) freezing the mixture; [and]

(d) drying by vacuum the mixture to form solid [to form solid] micronized particles of the agent dispersed in solid macromolecular material[, wherein greater than 90% of the solid particles are less than 1 μm in diameter]; and

(e) separating the solid micronized particles of agent from the macromolecular material.

Please cancel claims ~~2~~ and ~~14~~.

24. (Amended) The method of claim [2] ~~1~~ wherein the particles of agent are separated from the solid macromolecular material using a method comprising

dissolving the macromolecular material in an effective amount of a solvent for the macromolecular material, wherein the ~~solvent~~ is a nonsolvent for the agent.

Please add the following new claims.

Rule 1.26
~~34~~ 27. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein greater than 90% solid particles are less than 1 μm in diameter.

Remarks

Claims 1-4 and 6-26 are pending. Claims 1 and 24 have been amended. Claims 2 and 14 have been canceled. New claim 27 has been added.